CONSUMER TIME R-16

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Produced by Consumers' Counsel Division of the Department of Agriculture, and presented in cooperation with Defense and non-Defense agencies of the United States Government working for consumers.

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1. ANNOUNCER: This is CONSUMER TIME.

2. SOUND: CASH REGISTER - CLOSE DRAWER

3. NANCY: That's your money buying food.

4. SOUND: CASH REGISTER

5. GUNNAR: That's your money paying for a home.

6. SOUND: CASH REGISTER

7. NANCY: That's your money buying clothes and the thousands of other things you need.

8. GUNNAR: That's you . . paying for these things . . money out of your pockets.

9. SOUND: CASH REGISTER - CLOSE DRAWER

10. ANNOUNCER: CONSUMER TIME brings you facts about how to make your pennies and dollars buy more of the things you need. This program is produced by your Consumers' Counsel in the Department of Agriculture, and is presented in cooperation with Defense and con-Defense agencies of the United States Government working for consumers.

And here is Donald Montgomery, our Consumers' Counsel.

11. MONTGOMERY: Thank you, , and hello, everyone. Yes, we have lots of information for you today . . not only facts about how to buy the things you need . . . but facts about how to use them . . to make them last longer . . to help you get the most service from them.

And here's our inquiring consumer . . a young housewife who always has a lot of questions to ask . . Mrs. Evelyn Freyman.

12. FREYMAN: I certainly have the questions, Mr. Montgomery. I want to find out all the facts I can.

13. MONTGOMERY: Now's your chance, Mrs. Freyman. Our two consumer reporters have been digging up all kinds of information for you . . so just start asking questions . .

14. FREYMAN: All right, who starts us off today?

15. GUNNAR: I do, Mrs. Freyman.

16. FREYMAN: And you're going to tell us about what, Gunnar?

17. GUNNAR: How to buy boys' trousers.

18. FREYMAN: Good. This is a good time to give us some facts about boys' trousers, too. They'll be needing them for school, and . .

19. GUNNAR: Before I start, let's look in on our consumer family for a minute. It's quite early in the morning, and Mrs. Miles is alone in the kitchen. (FADE) She's just finishing the morning dishes, when . .

(PAUSE)

20. SOUND: KNOCK ON DOOR

21. MOTHER: (CALLING) Who's there?

22. JIMMIE: (OFF MIKE) It's me . . Jimmie, Aunt Sara.

23. MOTHER: Just a minute, Jimmie . . I'll unlock the door.

24. SOUND: KEY IN LATCH . . DOOR OPENS

25. JIMMIE: Hello, Aunt Sara.

26. MOTHER: Hello, Jimmie, what brings you here so early in the morning?

27. JIMMIE: Mother said to give you this note. Here.

28. SOUND: NOTE PAPER

29. MOTHER: (READING) 'Dear Sara, will you please do me a favor? There's a sale of boys' clothes going on downtown today, and Jimmie needs a pair of pants badly. I'm not feeling very good today, so would you do me a favor and take Jimmie downtown and buy him a pair?'

30. JIMMIE: Gee whiz, Aunt Sara, do I really have to get a new pair of pants!

31. MOTHER: Why, Jimmie, don't you want a new pair?

32. JIMMIE: Naw . . every time Mother buys me new clothes, she gets them too big. Says I grow too fast.

33. MOTHER: You are growing pretty fast, Jimmie, and it costs a lot of money to buy clothes.

34. JIMMIE: But, gee, I hate to wear clothes that don't fit . . they look funny, and the fellas all kid me.

(PAUSE)

35. GUNNAR: I can sympathize with Jimmie, Mrs. Freyman, and I hope Mrs. Miles will do right by her young nephew.

36. FREYMAN: But Gunnar, if Jimmie is growing fast, why isn't it a good idea to buy clothes a couple of sizes too large?

37. GUNNAR: So he'll grow into them?

38. FREYMAN: Yes.

39. GUNNAR: Well, you heard how Jimmie felt about it, didn't you?

40. FREYMAN: Yes, but . .

41. GUNNAR: And the experts in the Bureau of Home Economics say that that idea isn't a good one, and it isn't necessary, either.

42. FREYMAN: What do they say to do?

43. GUNNAR: They suggest that you get a sport cut suit or pants . . made with room for growth and activity built right into them.

44. FREYMAN: You mean suits with pleats in the back of the coat?

45. GUNNAR: That's one thing, and with elastic waistbands on the trousers . . and that have outlet seams and hems in the coats and trousers that can be let out as the boy grows.

46. FREYMAN: That sounds much more sensible than buying clothes that are too large, and that don't really fit when you buy them.

47. GUNNAR: Well, that's just one of the many things you should remember.

48. FREYMAN: What are some of the things we should look for in buying boys' trousers?

49. GUNNAR: We haven't finished with size yet . . the main thing is to buy trousers that fit the boy regardless of the size stamped on the label.

50. FREYMAN: Is that because sizes are not the same with different manufacturers?

51. GUNNAR: That's one reason, and the other is that boys have different shaped bodies.

52. FREYMAN: So they should always be tried on for fit.

53. GUNNAR: Right.

54. FREYMAN: What about the material for boys' trousers?

55. GUNNAR: It should be able to take a lot of punishment, of course . . and that means the fabric should have a firm strong weave, and in addition, it should take a good press and not wrinkle easily.

56. FREYMAN: And not show spots!

57. GUNNAR: Good. And be sure the material is thoroughly shrunk. It's enough to worry about how fast the boy is going to outgrow his pants, without having to worry about shrinking.

58. FREYMAN: How can I find out if the material is shrunk?

59. GUNNAR: That information should be on the label.

60. FREYMAN: So far, then, we should look for trousers that fit . . that are preshrunk . . that are made of strong, firmly woven material . . and what else?

61. GUNNAR: Well, let's see what some of the other points are . . the trousers should be cut accurately with the material, if they are to keep their shape and fit. And look especially for any piecing in the crotch.

62. FREYMAN: Why is that important?

63. GUNNAR: Well-made trousers are never pieced. They will wear, feel, and look much better.

64. FREYMAN: I see.

65. GUNNAR: Another thing . . check the seams. There should be a general allowance of not less than three-eights of an inch.

66. FREYMAN: That's so they won't pull out.

67. GUNNAR: Yes. And the seams should be finished with what is called "serging."

68. FREYMAN: What is serging?

69. GUNNAR: It is a kind of overcasting, only it's done by machine and is more secure.

70. FREYMAN: I see. But how can you tell - aren't boys' trousers lined?

71. GUNNAR: Winter knickers and shorts are, sometimes, yes. And in that case, you won't be able to see the seams.

72. FREYMAN: How can you tell what kind of a job has been done, then?

73. GUNNAR: You can tell pretty well by feeling through the lining.

74. FREYMAN: I see. Gunnar, you have missed the one thing that would interest the boys the most.

75. GUNNAR: What's that?

76. FREYMAN: Pockets.

77. GUNNAR: I haven't missed them . . I haven't gotten around to them yet. And it doesn't look as if there was time to tell you about them.

78. FREYMAN: What are we going to . . ?

79. GUNNAR: A Consumer Tips card, Mrs. Freyman . . with all the information I've just given you . . and some more that I haven't time to give now.

80. FREYMAN: A Consumer Tips card on Boys' Trousers.

81. GUNNAR: Right . . it's free to anyone who wants a copy and who will write in and ask for it.

82. FREYMAN: Where do we write?

83. GUNNAR: , our announcer, will tell you about it in just a few minutes.

84. FREYMAN: Thank you, Gunnar. And now it's time to see what our other consumer reporter has for us today. Nancy?

85. NANCY: Let's take a quick look in on our consumer family again, Mrs. Freyman. Just a few days ago, Mr. Miles built the first fire in the furnace for the season. It's afternoon (FADE) and Mrs. Miles and Barbara are anxiously waiting for Mr. Miles to return home . . .

(PAUSE)

86. BARBARA: Mother, can I get you another sweater?

87. MOTHER: No, dear. I can't imagine what you did to that furnace.

88. BARBARA: I just put a whole lot more coal on it . . like you said.

89. MOTHER: Well, I hope your father gets here before we freeze to death.

90. FATHER: (COMING ON MIKE) What's this I hear about freezing?

91. MOTHER: The fire's gone out in the furnace, and it's cold.

92. FATHER: Gosh, it is cold, isn't it? What happened?

93. BARBARA: Mother asked me to put more coal on, and I did, and now the fire's out.

94. FATHER: Can't understand that. Guess I'd better go see what's the matter.

(PAUSE)

95. NANCY: I suppose the men would say that a woman doesn't really know how to take care of a fire anyway, Mrs. Freyman.

96. FREYMAN: Well, I don't know . . I know lots of men who have let the fire go out . . or have burned up an awful lot of coal . . or who weren't able to build a fire in the furnace.

97. NANCY: Well, this isn't the place for an argument like that . . because I have some suggestions from the Bituminous Coal Consumers' Counsel that will help everyone . . male or female.

98. FREYMAN: Good. The thing I'm most concerned about right now is the kind of coal I should buy.

99. NANCY: To get the most heat for your money, you mean.

100. FREYMAN: Yes.

101. NANCY: Right off I'll tell you that we have a little pamphlet that will help you answer that question. You can figure out all for yourself just how much heat a ton of coal will give you and how much you are actually paying for the heat.

102. FREYMAN: Instead of just knowing the cost of the coal by weight.

103. NANCY: That's it . . because it is heat you want.

104. FREYMAN: And you say we can get that pamphlet?

105. NANCY: Yes, in a few minutes , our announcer, will tell you all about it.

106. FREYMAN: Nancy, are there any tricks about building a fire and keeping a house warm? You know, special ways of doing things . . to help keep the cost down?

107. NANCY: I'm glad you asked that question, Mrs. Freyman, because I do have some suggestions.

108. FREYMAN: What are they?

109. NANCY: First, you should check over your heating system thoroughly.

110. FREYMAN: Does that mean cleaning out the furnace?

111. NANCY: That's part of it. The furnace should be cleaned out so no soot or ash is left inside the furnace or in the pipes.

112. FREYMAN: Yes.

113. NANCY: And the whole system of pipes and chimney should be checked to find out if there are any leaks.

114. FREYMAN: You mean holes in the pipes?

115. NANCY: Yes, or loose bricks or loose joints . . they should all be fixed.

116. FREYMAN: Nancy, I've seen a lot about insulating a home. How much does that help?

117. NANCY: Our experts say that if you live in a very cold climate, you can save almost half your heating bill by insulating your walls and roof.

118. FREYMAN: But suppose I can't afford to do that?

119. NANCY: Well, it doesn't cost very much to weatherstrip all the doors and windows, and you can save almost a quarter of your heating bill just by doing that.

120. FREYMAN: Let's see, now. So far you've suggested that we can save money and get more efficient heat by knowing how to buy the right kind of coal . . by cleaning out the heating equipment . . by insulating the house and weatherstripping the windows and doors.

121. NANCY: Correct.

122. FREYMAN: But you haven't said anything yet about how to build a fire and keep it going. I've always thought that had a lot to do with getting the most heat from my coal dollar.

123. NANCY: You're right. It does have a lot to do with it.

124. FREYMAN: Do you have some suggestions for us?

125. NANCY: Yes, indeed. First, you can get a great deal of help from your own coal dealer. He'll be able to tell you a lot about getting the most heat out of your furnace.

126. FREYMAN: Ask my coal dealer.

127. NANCY: Unhunh. But meanwhile, here are a couple of hints . . this might have helped Barbara . . . when you put more coal on the fire . . make a little hole first.

128. FREYMAN: Make a hole? What do you mean?

129. NANCY: Actually, you push the hot coals to one side, and then put the fresh coal into the pocket . . leaving some of the red coals exposed.

130. FREYMAN: How much coal should you put in?

131. NANCY: Not too much and not too little. You have to learn that from experience.

132. FREYMAN: I'll bet I know one of your rules, Nancy.

133. NANCY: What is it?

134. FREYMAN: Clean out the ashes every day.

135. NANCY: That's right. But when you're shaking down the fire, don't shake all the ashes out. You should leave a layer of ashes over the grate to protect it from warping.

136. FREYMAN: Nancy, I have one more question . . What is the best way to <u>build</u> a fire.

137. NANCY: It's very simple . . start with a layer of ashes. Then put on a layer of coal.

138. FREYMAN: First ashes, and then coal.

139. NANCY: Yes. Then some kindling wood, and finally some paper.

140. FREYMAN: And that's all?

141. NANCY: That's all except a match to light it with.

142. FREYMAN: Why that sounds like just the opposite to the way I always try.

143. NANCY: It's the right way . . just try it the next time.

144. FREYMAN: I'm not going to remember all these fine suggestions you've made today, Nancy.

145. NANCY: No need to, Mrs. Freyman . . just write in and get that pamphlet on "Buying and Burning Bituminous Coal," and you'll find all the information right there.

146. FREYMAN: That's fine, and thanks a lot, Nancy. And now it's time to hear from our Consumers' Counsel again . . Donald Montgomery.

(MR. MONTGOMERY'S REMARKS)

147. FREYMAN: Thank you, Mr. Montgomery. And now . . . !

148. SOUND: NOTE ON CHIMES

149. ANNOUNCER: THE CONSUMERS' HONOR ROLL!

150. GUNNAR: Creek County, Oklahoma. Women in the Home Demonstration Clubs in Creek County, Oklahoma, go on the Honor Roll today for their consumer project in food buying.

These women learned how they could save money by buying staples in large quantities . . by recognizing good quality products and buying them at weekend sales . . and by studying the food value of different grades of food.

As one woman said . . "The thing that impressed me most about this demonstration was the difference in quality and quantity in apparently the same sized cans. I had always compared weights of cans, but I have learned to want and expect more details on the cans of foodstuffs I buy."

For this valuable project in consumer education, women in the Home Demonstration Clubs in Creek County, Oklahoma, get Honor Roll mention today.

151. SOUND: NOTE ON CHIMES

152. FREYMAN: Thank you, Gunnar. And now, quickly, what do you have scheduled for next week's CONSUMER TIME?

153. NANCY: How to cook chicken.

154. GUNNAR: Pointers on painting.

156. FREYMAN: How to cook chicken and some pointers on painting for next week's CONSUMER TIME. All right, , tell us about today's free offer.

156. ANNOUNCER: Here it is . . First the pamphlet about coal . . giving you all the facts you need to know about how to buy the right kind of coal for your furnace so you will get the most heat for your money. It also gives suggestions about how to take care of your furnace and to get the most efficient heat from it. This pamphlet is called BUYING AND BURNING BITUMINOUS COAL. It's free.

Our second offer today is the Consumer Tips card on Boys' Trousers . . with facts to help you buy wisely the next pair of trousers for your sons.

Both of these items are free . . and all you have to do to get your copies is to send a penny post card to Consumers' Counsel, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Give us your name and address and

the call letters of the station over which you heard this program. Ask for Consumer Tips on Boys' Trousers and the pamphlet on coal.

Here's that address again . . in case you didn't get it . . Consumers' Counsel, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. A penny postal is all you need, with your name and address and the call letters of the station over which you heard this program. Ask for your copies of Consumer Tips on Boys' Trousers and the pamphlet on coal. They're free.

Tune in next week at this same time to another in the series . . CONSUMER TIME . . produced by your Consumers' Counsel in the Department of Agriculture, and presented in cooperation with Defense and non-Defense agencies of the United States Government working for consumers.

Heard on today's program were Evelyn Freyman, Nancy Ordway, Nell Fleming, Frances Adams, Gunnar Jadgmann, and Cy Briggs.

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